

Hybrid Clean Air Vehicle Decal Program Ends

Implementation Date: July 1, 2011

New Information

Effective July 1, 2011, owners of hybrid clean air vehicles displaying **yellow** Clean Air Vehicle (CAV) decals will no longer be able to operate their vehicle in a high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane unless the minimum passenger requirements are met. After July 1, 2011, use of an HOV lane, without the minimum required passengers, may subject the driver to a citation.

Procedures

The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Registration Operations Division (ROD) will send a letter of explanation to the affected customers (attached).

Background

Vehicles that met certain federal and California emission standards were issued CAV decals. The decals allowed authorized vehicles driven by a single occupant to use California's HOV (carpool or diamond) lanes.

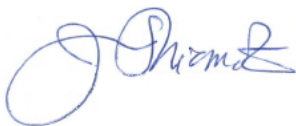
Distribution

Notification that this memo is available online at www.dmv.ca.gov under Publications was made via California DMV's Automated E-mail Alert System in April 2011.

Contact

Call the DMV Customer Communications Section at (916) 657-6560 for further clarification of this memo. Upon request, this document can be produced in Braille or large print.

Attachment



JEAN SHIOMOTO, Deputy Director
Communication Programs Division

DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

REGISTRATION OPERATIONS DIVISION

P.O. BOX 932345

SACRAMENTO, CA 94232-3450



May 1, 2011

Mr. John Smith
123 Main Street
San Francisco, California 92780

Dear Vehicle Owner:

California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) records indicate you own a hybrid vehicle that was issued a *yellow* Clean Air Decal; authorizing travel in High-Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes, also known as carpool lanes, without meeting the minimum passenger requirements.

Effective July 1, 2011, the *yellow* Clean Air Decal will no longer allow you to operate your vehicle in an HOV lane unless the minimum passenger requirements are met. This change resulted from the passage of Senate Bill 535 signed into law on August 10, 2010, and amends California Vehicle Code Sections 5205.5 and 21655.9. **After July 1, 2011, use of an HOV lane without the minimum required passengers, will subject the driver to a citation under California Vehicle Code Section 21655.5.**

For information regarding the types of vehicles that are qualified to operate in HOV lanes, you may contact the California Air Resources Board helpline at (800) 242-4450 or visit their website at www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/carpool/carpool.htm.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this letter, you may contact the DMV at (800) 777-0133.

Sincerely,

KATHLEEN ROSE, Deputy Director
Registration Operations Division